FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Iran handed its "final reply" on terms for the release of the U.S. hostages to the Algerian delegation on 18 December. Tehran radio, citing a PARS interview with Minister of State Behzad Nabavi, said the reply includes "certain amendments" to the U.S. proposals to make them "congruent" with the Majlis conditions for the release of the hostages and "reliable methods" to guarantee the "proper implementation" of U.S. commitments. Regarding the four Majlis conditions, the reply "requested" that a U.S. statement on noninterference in Iran's internal affairs "accurately tally" with this condition. The reply characterized the U.S. response to the other three conditions as on the whole "acceptable" and said the main point is "guaranteeing these undertakings" so they "should be completely reliable." In addition to signing the agreement, the reply continued, the United States, prior to the release of the hostages, must transfer the frozen assets to the Algerian Central Bank. As to claims against the late shah's wealth, the reply said "acceptable guarantees" of good will should be given to Algeria to support efforts by Iran to recover these assets. In "a gesture of good will," the reply went on, Iran agreed to jointly investigate claims against the two nations provided "American claims in connection with the Islamic revolution or with the occupation of the spy den will not be the result of subsequent reactions by the U.S. Government."

Iran Domestic Affairs

Armed Forces Warning--An armed forces communique, reported by Tahran radio, warned that although previous "attacks and conspiracies" against the Islamic revolution had been "foiled" by the "decisive leadership" of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, a new "aggression against the holy principle of velayat-e faqih" (Islamic jurisconsult) is being plotted "in the shape of struggle against the clergy." The armed forces, the communique said, will "not tolerate" any insult to the holy principle.

Farzami Execution--AFP reported that a former editor of the banned French-languare JOURNAL DE TEHRAN, Simon Farzami, was executed on 16 December on charges of working for the U.S. Embassy. Iranian prosecutors said a document found in the embassy proved his guilt, although other evidence was also cited against him.

Khomeyni Speech--Ayatollah Khomeyni told a group of univeristy and theological students that Tehran University will remain closed until it can be changed to serve the nation's interest. In his speech, carried by Tehran radio, Khomeyni said the university has served as a "war office" for members of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party, communists and other "hypocritical groups," making it a "center of all sorts of corruption." "Whether we like it or not," he continued, "it is the university that is dragging us toward America or the Soviet Union," and this must not be allowed to happen. Khomeyni called for changes in universities and theological institutions to upgrade the teachers' commitment to Islam and to save Iran "from both present and future parasites engaged in mischief making."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reported more fighting around Ahvaz and Susangerd with Iranian forces foiling an Iraqi attempt to bridge the Karkheh Kur River. An Iranian Joint Staff communique, reported by Tehran radio, said Iranian Air Force planes hit Iraqi targets around Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr) while the two sides continued to exchange artillery fire in Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb, Dezful and Shush and along the Malekshahi heights.

Gulf Islands

Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia denied any Algerian mediation or initiative between the UAE and Iran over the three disputed Gulf islands. In an interview with the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-WAHDAH, reported by QNA, the foreign minister said a previous report of an Algerian mediation attempt by a Gulf newspaper was unfounded.

Israel

Raid Into Lebanon--Israeli Defense Force units struck into Lebanon northwest of the Litani River to attack a Palestinian base camp used to stage raids into Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. Citing an IDF spokesman, the radio said the raiders hit an area around Al-Mahmudiyah, destroying buildings and bunkers used to shelter and supply the terrorists. Reporting on the raid, Beirut radio said Israeli artillery shelled various villages during the attack while Israeli planes attacked other targets in southern Lebanon. Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, the radio added, charged that it was part of "a chain of aggression" by Israel and to clear the Lebanese out of the southern part of the country and "pave the way for its expansionist designs." Earlier, Jerusalem radio noted that the Israeli-backed Christian militia in Lebanon had attacked other Palestinian bases in response to increasing harassment of the Christian enclaves.

Labor Party Vote--According to Jerusalem radio, Shim'on Peres handily won the election for the chairmanship of the Labor Party over his main rival, Yitzhaq Rabin. Peres garnered over 70 percent of the vote among party convention delegates, the radio said, and will stand as the party's candidate for the prime ministership in the upcoming Knesset election.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat affirmed their "complete faith" in the Camp David peace process in a joint statement issued to mark the end of U.S. Ambassador Sol Linowitz's work in the autonomy negotiations. In the statement the two leaders noted that "considerable progress" has been made in the negotiations but much remains to be done. They thanked President Jimmy Carter for his efforts and expressed pleasure that President-elect Ronald Reagan has confirmed his commitment to the negotiations.

Saudi Arabia

Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has expressed Saudi Arabia's opposition to "any Western presences in the Gulf, adding that if there is a Western presence, the Soviet Union will use it to justify their intervention in the region. In remarks reported by SPA, the oil minister, who is in Australia on a weeklong visit, said that the West "could be our ally" if they abandon "their blind support" for Israel and support the Palestinians' right to a homeland.

Turning to oil matters, Yamani foresaw no sharp increases in oil prices in 1981 but called on the importing countries to reduce their consumption of oil.

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SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA INTERVIEWS SOLTAN 'ALI KESHTMAND

For the text of an interview with Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Politburo and DRA Revolution Council, as published in the 5 December edition of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, see page D 2 of the South Asia section of the 19 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

RATEBZAD RECEIVES MOVIE EQUIPMENT FROM USSR

LD190030 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The cinematography committee of the USSR has helped Afghan movies through the donation of eight mobile motion picture facilities worth $88,000. Documents relevant to this aid were signed and exchanged at a ceremony at the Afghan film office by Dr Anahita Ratebzad, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the Revolution Council, president of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan and chairman of the DRA Solidarity, Peace and Friendship Organization and by Fikryat Tabayev, USSR ambassador to Kabul.

Dr Anahita Ratebzad and Fikryat Tabayev spoke about the fraternal, friendly and disinterested ties between the people of the DRA and of the Soviet Union and expressed wishes for the further extension and strengthening of relations between the two countries. Dr Ratebzad expressed appreciation for the USSR's grant in aid and added that this aid from our loyal and sure friends--the USSR--is an example of the loyal and disinterested aid which will play an effective and revolutionary role in enhancing the awareness of our people in the villages.

REBEL BANDS DEFEATED IN THREE PROVINCES

LD182323 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] By their courageous and heroic activities last night the armed forces, police and party activists of Parvan Province crushed a number of rebels, these bought servants of international imperialism, headed by the criminal United States and its wicked collaborators, who had disrupted the peaceful life of the toiling people of Kuhestan district in Parvan Province for some time by acts of brigandage and murder.

A spokesman for Kuhestan district reported: A number of various types of U.S. and Chinese arms, incldluing missile launchers and a large number of (?mortars), have been seized by the security forces from these counterrevolutionary elements and enemies of our homeland and people. The spokesman added that a number of these captured elements are under intensive interrogation.

Another report from Balkh Province states that a number of thieves and murderers, who were stealing and looting the property of bus passengers in Chashmeh-ye Shafa Village, Showlgara district, along the road linking Mazar-e Sharif and (Chamtal), were recently crushed by the security forces and party activists, and a number of them were captured. In accordance with the report of a spokesman from Balkh, these thieves and murders are: (Mehraban) and La'l Mohammad, residents of Dowlatabad district; and Haji Mohammad Eshaq, Mohammad Hasan, La'l Mohammad son of Shor Mohammad, Mohammad 'Ali, Nesar Ahmad and La'l Mohammad son of Khodadad. A number of various types of U.S. and Chinese arms were seized from them, and they are under interrogation.

Similarly, in accordance with the report of a source from Qonduz Province, a number of counterrevolutionary elements in Qala-e Zal district of Qonduz Province were recently eliminated by the security force and the toiling people of that district were freed from the mischief of these criminals and murderers. The source adds that a large number of various types of U.S., Chinese and Pakistani arms, as well as incriminating documents and leaflets proving their direct link with counterrevolutionary elements abroad, have been seized by the security force of that province.

REFUGEES RETURN TO HOMES IN NAGARHAR PROVINCE

GF171754 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Afghan nationals who had left the country on account of the atrocities of the fascist Amin's band continue to return to their homeland. A total of 21 families from the Kamah District of Nangarhar Province have recently returned home, showing their faith in the sincerity of the party and the government. One of the returnees, speaking on behalf of the others on this occasion, pledged to make sacrifices in safeguarding the gains of the revolution and in annihilating the enemies of the country.

DEMONSTRATIONS, GUNFIRE REPORTED IN KABUL

BK171615 Hong Kong AFP in English 1602 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 17 (AFP)--The murder of two schoolgirls in Kabul triggered a big anti-Soviet protest in the Afghan capital this month, Western diplomatic sources here said today.

Several hundred Afghans marched to a number of ministry buildings on December 13 to demand punishment for Soviet soldiers they held responsible for the killings. The bodies of the two girls were discovered five days earlier near Darulaman Palace, shortly after a search was launched in Kabul for several missing Soviet soldiers. the sources said.

Security was reportedly stepped up in the capital on the night of December 9, and embassies were surrounded by troops, as happened in the summer when a young Soviet soldier sought refuge in the United States Embassy after a row with his superiors. Trucks of Soviet soldiers were seen around the Western and Chinese embassies, and vehicles leaving the compounds were followed by cars of the Khad, the Afghan secret police, diplomatic sources said. The security was relaxed on December 13, when the girls were buried, diplomats here said, but it was unclear whether Soviet soldiers were involved in the double murder.

Between December 10 and 16, the diplomats said, exchanges of rifle fire were heard nightly in various sections of the city. An explosion on December 11, they added, apparently destroyed the electricity center for a textile factory, while a second explosion the following day killed four Soviet officers and three soldiers in the neighborhood of barracks where a motorized Soviet division has its quarters.

The diplomats said the direction taken by Soviet military traffic indicated operations might be underway southwest of Kabul. The diplomats' general assessment about the situation in Afghanistan was that close to a year after having made their entry into the country, the Soviets were in control of the major urban centers and main roads, at least by day, but that Moslem opposition continued to be evident in all provinces.

BRIEFS

GDR COMPUTERS PURCHASED--The Central Committee of the Government Planning Department and the GDR's [name indistinct] have signed an agreement under which computer equipment will be purchased from the said institute. The equipment will cost $1.5 million. The installation of this modern computer system will adequately fulfill the needs of the Central Statistics Department. [Text] [Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 17 Dec 80 LD]

CSSR TRADE DELEGATION DEPARTS--Jaroslav Jakubec, deputy minister of foreign trade of Czechoslovakia, who headed a commercial delegation from his country to Kabul, left for home today after discussions with Afghan commercial authorities and the signing of a goods exchange protocol between the two countries. At Kabul International Airport, 'Abdol Salam, deputy minister of commerce, the general director of foreign trade, other officials of that ministry and the ambassador of Czechoslovakia in Kabul were present to bid the delegation farewell. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Dec 80 LD]

FOREIGN MINISTER DENIES SOVIET PRESSURE

BK181551 Hong Kong AFP English 1723 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Dacca, 17 Dec (AFP)--Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq told Parliament today that Soviet-Bangladesh relations were normal and rejected an opposition members charge that Bangladesh was under Soviet pressure to abandon her stand on the Afghan issue.

The opposition Muslim League member, Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury, in a motion wanted a clarification from the government on a foreign newspaper report that the Soviet Union was creating strong pressure on Bangladesh against her stand on the Afghan question. Bangladesh supports withdrawal of all foreign troops from the soil of Afghanistan so that its people could determine their own future. Replying to Mr Chowdhury's motion, the foreign minister said under normal diplomatic practice two states could exchange views on bilateral, regional and international matters and Bangladesh Government discussed Afghan situation with the Soviets. Prof Haq said it would not be proper to describe such exchange of views as creating pressure by one country on the other.

MARITIME BOUNDARY TALKS WITH INDIA CONCLUDE

BK051359 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Dec 80

[Text] The 4-day Bangladesh-India talks on delimitation of maritime boundary were concluded in Dacca with a decision to resume discussions as early as possible in 1981 for further consultation on the issue.

A joint press statement issued in Dacca today said the talks were useful and were held in an extremely cordial atmosphere and understanding between the two countries. [sentence as heard] During the talks, both sides agreed that the question of delimitation of maritime boundary between the two countries should be resolved by mutual agreement in a spirit of understanding and goodneighborly relations.

Replying to a question, leader of Indian delegation Dr S.P. Jagota hoped that the two sides will be able to come to a solution acceptable to both the countries. He described the talks as positive and constructive. The Bangladesh side at the talks was led by Additional Foreign Secretary Asaul Karim.

BURMESE HOME MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT 18 DEC

BK181438 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Home and Religious Affairs Minister of Burma Brig Gen Sein Lwin arrived in Dacca today on an 8-day visit to Bangladesh. An agreement on border arrangement and cooperation between Bangledesh and Burma is expected to be signed tomorrow. Gen Sein Lwin during his stay in Bangladesh will also visit Cox's Bazar and Khulna.

GANDHI ON U.S., PRC DELEGATIONS VISITING PAKISTAN

BK181648 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was informed today that the government has seen reports of a few high-level military delegations from China and the United States having visited Pakistan since last month. In a written reply, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi said reports of the visits of these delegations to Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan have also been noticed. But there is no information to suggest that a high level delegation from China and the United States visited the Indo-Pakistan borders.

In another written reply Minister of State for Defense Shivraj Patil said there are no credible reports to suggest that Pakistan by itself or in collusion with other countries has been carrying out any unusual reinforcement of troops along the borders with India. He said Pakistan is known to be procuring military weapons from a number of countries, including Britain and France. Patil declined to disclose details of the information.

RAO REPORTS ON RELATIONS WITH BANGLADESH

BK190934 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was informed today that negotiations between India and Bangladesh on rail links to the northeastern region through Bangladesh has reached a crucial stage. Minister for External Affairs Narasimha Rao said during question hour that an economic delegation from this country visited Dacca in October last to speed up the process. Rao said the proposed rail link is very important from our point of view if it materializes.

Replying to a number of supplementaries, the external affairs minister said the talks between the two countries at the joint rivers commission level over the Ganges water dispute appeared to have failed. The representatives of the two countries will report to their respective governments, the matter will then be taken up at higher level between the two governments.

In reply to the main question, Rao said during his visit to Bangladesh from the 15th to the 18th of August last he had wide-ranging discussions on bilateral matters with the Bangladesh leaders. The two sides covered important aspects of the land and maritime boundaries, Farakka, illegal infiltration and transportation links. The question of expanding cultural cooperation was also discussed. It was agreed that the program of cultural and academic exchange between the two countries will be signed shortly. The two sides, Rao said, also agreed to intensify their efforts to increase cooperation in the economic, commercial, scientific and technological fields.

Summing up, Rao said his visit provided a further impetus to Indo-Bangladesh relations. He said talks on matters concerning maritime boundary with Bangladesh are at an advance stage. Rao also informed the house that India has told Bangladesh that the islands, which were spotted recently in the Indian Ocean, belong to India. He expressed the hope that the matter will be decided in India's favor. Referring to illegal infiltration between India and Bangladesh, Rao said talks on this matter have shown improvement and the two countries are taking better and stricter measures recently.

MUKHERJEE CSSR'S BARCAK HOLD TRADE TALKS

BK191036 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee has called for adding a new dimension to the Indo-Czechoslovak trading pattern. Mukherjee was addressing the first plenary meeting of the ninth meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak joint committee for economic, trade and technical cooperation in New Delhi. He led the Indian delegation, while the Czechoslovak team was headed by Minister of Foreign Trade I.A. Barcak; both the ministers noted that Indo-Czechoslovak trade relations have increased rapidly over the years.

ENOUGH URANIUM TO MEET CURRENT NEEDS DISCOVERED

BK171633 Hong Kong AFP in English 1225 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 17 (AFP)--Adequate uranium and other raw material resources to meet requirements of the nuclear power programme currently envisaged have been discovered in India, Parliament was informed today.

Junior Minister for Science and Technology C.P.N. Singh told the lower house that intensive surveys and exploration conducted by the mineral division of the Department of Atomic Energy have resulted in the identification of a number of new uranium deposits, in addition to the already known Singhbhum thrust belt in Bihar state. He also assured the house that lapses in the nuclear energy policy during the last three years have been rectified.

In reply to a question, Mr Singh said a fast breeder test reactor with French collaboration was under construction at kalpakkam, in Tamil Nadu, in the south, at an estimated cost of 587 million rupees (over $73 million).

IRANIAN MINISTER: OIL SUPPLIES TO INDIA TO CONTINUE

BK191038 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Iran will continue to supply crudes to india; this has been stated by Iranian deputy minister for oil Hassan Sadat. He was talking to newsmen in Calcutta on his way from Indonesian Island of Bali to New Delhi.

INDIA SEEKS TO BUY 1 MILLION TONNES OF OIL FROM BURMA

BK171620 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 17 (AFP)--India is seeking one million tonnes of crude oil from Burma to meet part of her requirements for the coming year, it was reported here today. The proposal was made during the state visit here by Burmese President Ne Win last month and diplomatic negotiations have been continuing since.

The proposal was in line with the current frantic search by India to find confirmed sources for imports next year to make up for the loss in supplies due to the Iran-Iraq war. India normally imports about 16 million tonnes of crude per year, two-thirds of which used to be supplied by the two Gulf countries.

Meanwhile, Petroleum Ministry sources estimated that India's import bill for crude would go up by another rs 5,000 million (about $630 million) due to the 10 percent increase in oil prices decided by the OPEC nations meeting in Bali. The sources also indicated that the government was considering a 10 percent increase in petroleum prices for consumers in the new year.

PRC MILITARY DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT TO PAKISTAN

Meeting With General Khan

BK141536 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] The visiting Chinese goodwill military delegation led by Han Huaizhi called on the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan, in Rawalpindi today and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. The members of the delegation later visited the National Defense College and heavy repair plant at Taxila.

Talks With Air Marshal

BK151535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] The Chinese military good-will delegation led by Han Huaizhi met with chief of air staff Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim at the Air Force headquarters in Peshawar and exchanged views on matters of mutual interests. Earlier, the Chinese delegation visited the Khyber Pass. The delegation members also had a luncheon at the Khyber Rifles Officers mess.

Meeting With Ziaul Haq

BK171538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Han Huaizhi, leader of the good-will military delegation of the People's Republic of China called on president Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Xu Yuxin was also present on the occasion. Earlier, Hun Huaizhi visited the Pakistan military academy at Kakul and the Baluch regimental center at Abbottabad.

Visit to Lahore

BK181544 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] The good-will military delegation of the People's Republic of China arrived in Lahore from Islamabad today. After its arrival in Lahore the delegation called on corps commander Lt Gen Sardar F.S. Lodhi.

GOVERNMENT DENIES PRC TROOPS IN PAKISTAN

BK181532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] The Government of Pakistan has described as totally baseless and incorrect a report by certain foreign media that Chinese troops are stationed in Pakistan. A Foreign Office spokesman stated in Islamabad today that Pakistan strictly adheres to a policy of nonalignment and has consistently opposed the presence of foreign troops in any country, therefore, the question of foreign troops being present in its own territory does not arise. The spokesman recalled that similar allegations were also made in certain foreign newspapers last month which were effectively refuted. The spokesman regretted that interested quarters continue to propagate such fabricated rumors.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH ROMANIA

BK160738 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Pakistan and Romania signed in Islamabad today a protocol on scientific and technical cooperation. It envisages further cooperation in the fields of electronics, mineral prospecting, light industries and medical sciences.

NEPAL

SOVIET GOOD-WILL DELEGATION ARRIVES IN KATMANDU

BK181544 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] A seven member good-will delegation of the Supreme Soviet led by Vice Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Arstanbek Duysheyev arrived in Katmandu today on about a week's visit to Nepal at the invitation of Rashtriya Panchayat chairman Lokendra Bahadur Chand. The delegates were received at the Tribhuvan International Airport by Rashtriya Panchayat Chairman Chand, Rashtriya Panchayat Committee Chairman Moti Prashad Pahari, Rashtriya Pachayat Social Committee Chairman Narendra Bahadur Chand, Rashtriya Panchayat Finance Committee Vice Chairman Bhadra Bahadur Kharga, Rashtriya Panchayat Development Committee Chairman Gramman Narain Yadav, Rashtriya Panchayat Water Resources Committee Chairman Narayan Malla, Nepal-Soviet (?Union) Legislative Friendship Group President Pashupati Shumshere Jang Bahadur Rana, and other Rashtriya Panchayat members.

PRINCE CHARLES DEPARTS KATMANDU FOR HOME 13 DEC

BK131517 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Charles, the prince of Wales, left Katmandu today for home by a special aircraft this morning at the end of the week-long visit to Nepal. His royal highness was given a warm send off by His Royal Highness Prince Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah at the VIP lounge of the Tribhuvan International Airport. A contingent of the Royal Nepali Army presented a guard of honor to the prince of Wales. National anthems of the Kingdom of Nepal and the United Kingdom were also played on the occasion.

His Royal Highness Prince Charles had arrived in Katmandu on 6 December on a weeklong visit to Nepal at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah. Also present at the airport to see off the royal visitor were the prime minister, the Rashtriya Panchayat chairman, the Raj Sabha Standing Committee chairman, ministers, former prime ministers, heads of constitutional bodies, heads of diplomatic missions and other dignitaries.

SRI LANKA

IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER STOPS IN COLOMBO 19 DEC

JN191140 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Colombo, 19 Dec (INA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi made a 1-hour stop today at Colombo airport enroute to the Maldives, which is the fourth stage of his current tour of Southeast Asian states.

At the airport, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi met with (Tyron Fernando), acting Sri Lankan foreign minister. It was said here that the Iraqi minister will return to the Sri Lankan capital tomorrow on a short visit. Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has visited the Philippines, Nepal and Thailand, where he has held talks with officials in the three capitals on bilateral relations and on the situation resulting from the Iranian aggression on the Iraqi border.

TEHRAN REPORTS 'FINAL' REPLY TO U.S. ON HOSTAGES

LD191124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] According to a PARS report, the final reply of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the U.S. Government pertaining to the hostages was delivered to the special Algerian delegation yesterday afternoon. In a contact with Behzad Nabavi, the government spokesman, PARS learned that this reply includes certain amendments to the written undertakings and statements put forward by the U.S. Government with the aim of making them congruent with what the Islamic Consultative Assembly has approved and also with reliable methods for guaranteeing the proper implementation of U.S. commitments in return for the release of the 52 U.S. citizens held hostage by the Iranian nation.

In this reply, in connection with the first paragraph approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has requested that Washington's statement with regard to noninterference in Iran's internal affairs accurately tally with what the Majlis has sanctioned.

In connection with paragraphs two, three and four of what the Islamic Consultative Assembly sanctioned, the U.S. Government's undertakings on the whole have been deemed acceptable, and in the main it is a question of guaranteeing these undertakings, which, from the standpoint of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, should be completely reliable. Since, from the government's standpoint, written undertakings carrying the signature of the U.S. President alone are not sufficient, the U.S. Government has been asked, in addition to signing the written undertakings and handing them to the Algerian Government prior to the release of the 52 U.S. citizens taken hostages by the Iranian nation, to deliver to the Algerian Central Bank the Iranian Government's expropriated gold and assets. As to other properties and assets and also the riches plundered by the deposed shah and his relatives, whose assets are regarded as the shah's wealth by their masters, acceptable guarantees as good will for a proper implementation should be given to the Algerian Government.

In return, the Iranian Government has agreed to a gesture of good will acceptable to the two sides with the aim of investigating the two sides' claims on the conditions that American claims in connection with the Islamic revolution or with the occupation of the spy den will not be the result of subsequent reactions by the U.S. Government.

Engineer Behzad Nabavi, in conclusion, added: In order to prevent possible abuse by foreign news agencies, particularly by Zionist and Western news agencies, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will notify the world of its views in this connection only through PARS, the Central News Bureau or official news conferences held by responsible officials and government spokesmen.

KHOMEYNI: TEHRAN UNIVERSITY TO REMAIN CLOSED

LD181536 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1059 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Speech by Imam Khomeyni to a group of theological and university students at his Tehran residence on 18 November--recorded, duration 48 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. What a fascinating meeting we are having today; what a blessed gathering. There was a time when there was a division between the University [of Tehran] and the theological sectors, with a climate of hostility, maybe, between the two having been created.

In these circumstances the university could not tolerate the clergy, nor the clergy the university. The idea behind this was to keep apart these two poles through whose unity the whole nation could unite, and to create opposition between them to prevent the nation from becoming united. Thank God, as a result of this Islamic movement and Islamic revolution a great transformation took place, so that neither considers itself divorced from the other, God willing.

With the help of God Almighty, the fear felt by the university people of the mullahs and vice versa has now been removed. Now you university brothers and the clergy have gathered together in order to eliminate difficulties and make a success of the revolution. The university and the spiritual and clerical institutes could be centers for all the country's progress and advancements; they could also be centers for all sorts of deviations and [word indistinct]. If the university is a university in the real sense of the word, it can then produce committed thinkers. Such a university, such an Islamic university, that is, a university which, parallel with academic education, also seeks refinement and [word indistinct], can help the country achieve happiness. Similarly, if theological institutes are refined and committed they too can save a country.

On its own, knowledge, if not detrimental, is at least useless. If we take an extensive look at the world and universities in the world, we see that all the calamities confronting mankind have their roots in universities, in expertise produced by universities. All the tools and instruments for an annihilation of man, all the progress, as it were, made in warfare has been basically produced by scientists who were university graduates. These are universities divorced from morality and refinement. Also, all the (?requests) emerging from nations or a nation have been due to theological institutions that had no commitment to Islamic teachings. All these religions [word indistinct] have sprung from scientists and scholars. [passage indistinct] The world has been corrupted by universities; it can also be (?saved) by universities.

The source of all problems facing a country is in university and theological institutions. Also, the source of all material and spiritual happiness is in university and theological institution. Thsu the grand design is to infiltrate universities, for they want to train (?students), engaged in their classrooms in (?working for) their country, since once the university is made corrupt, then the whole country will follow suit.

[passage indistinct]

We are not saying that there must be no university; what we want is a university serving the nation's interest; a university of our own. We are better off without a university which serves America's interests. There are those who are unhappy about the closure of the university. This is a university which, according to an informed source a few days ago, acts as a war office for Kordestan; that is, there was a certain room at the university from which people were conducting the war in Kordestan, the war waged by the Democrats [presumably Kurdish Democratic Party] as well as other people. Is this the sort of university you want? You who are shouting and protesting against the closure of the university, is this the sort of university you want to resume its work? Do you want to see a war office set up to conduct and guide the democrats and others like them so that (?Iran) would be destroyed? Is this the university you want; is this the university for which you show so much regret? Is it not better for such a university to remain closed rather than to reopen? [shouts of "God is great"]

Of course, those assigned to implement the cultural revolution in the university must emphasize that first of all the university should become Islamic, a university belonging to the nation, otherwise we will have to keep the university doors open to everyone.

Did you not see the extent of corruption in the university when its doors were wide open? It was a trench for the communists; it was a war office for the communists. Now you regret that there is no longer a university. Do you say this knowingly? Do you say this, based on proper understanding? If so, then your duties ought to be ascertained. However, if what you say stems from ignorance, then how can you expect a university which until a few months ago, until more than a year ago, was the center of all sorts of corruption, a university which was in the grip of communists, the gerrillas and other hypocritical groups, to reopen? Do you want them to return? What you are saying is: Why, there are no hypocrites in the university. You are saddened because there is going to be Islam in the university?

Whether we want it or not, it is the university which is dragging us toward America or the Soviet Union; it cannot be otherwise, for it is from the university that this starts. Bazaar trandesmen cannot lead us toward America or the Soviet Union; peasants cannot do this either; factory workers cannot do this; nor can the clergy, even if there are corrupt individuals among them. The one thing which can make us dependent, which can throw us into the lap of America and the Soviet Union is the university, for (?everything) we have is in the university. Try to improve the university; stop writing and asking why the university is not reopened. Such a university must no reopen, a university which produces people like Sharif-Emami [one of the shah's last prime ministers]. [shouts of "God is great; Khomeyni is the leader]

The university must elevate the rank of specialists and (?teach) commitments, morality and Islam. Both the university and theological institutions must be refined. Theological institutions must produce scholars who are committed in the real sense of the word; they must become centers for producing gnostics; as for the university, it must produce men. What we want is academic men, rather than teachers and students. The university must produce ment. Once it succeeds in doing that, then such men will not be prepared to hand over their country to others; man is not prepared to submit to indignity and enslavement. It is the man they are afraid of.

I do hope that the steps taken to date will be followed by bigger strides. May God bless you all and help you to save your country from both present and future parasites engaged in mischief making. God bless you all.

BANI-SADR MEETS WITH COMMANDERS IN KHUZESTAN

LD181142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] According to PARS, President Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, reviewed the situation on the battlefronts during a meeting in the Province of Khuzestan this morning.

The report indicates that at this meeting the acting chief of the joint staff, the commander of the ground forces, the minister of defense and the commander of the air force, and several other military commanders of Khuzestan were present. At the start of the meeting, each commander presented a report on operations carried out by their own units; afterwards they exchanged views and investigated the general situation of the battlefronts, and ways in which the personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are encountering the mercenary personnel of the Iraqi Armed Forces.

Return to Tehran

LD181734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] According to PARS, Dr Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief of the armed forces, who had gone to Khuzestan in order to review the operations of the revolution warriors on the war fronts, returned to Tehran, this afternoon.

RAJA'I BRIEFED ON IRAN, USSR BANK NATIONALIZATION

LD181730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] According to PARS, this afternoon 'Ali Reza Nobari, governor of the Central Bank of Iran met and conferred with Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and submitted a report to the prime minister on the nationalization of the Iran and Russia Bank.

It should be pointed out that the governor of the Central Bank of Iran and members of the Supreme Council of the country's banks have held discussions for the past 2 days with a Russian delegation that came to Iran for this purpose.

SALAMATI DISCUSSES AGRICULTURAL NEEDS OF PROVINCES

GF181930 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] According to our reporter, Agriculture Minister Salamati arrived yesterday afternoon in Ahvaz to discuss agricultural problems there and attended a meeting in which engineer (Tavala'i), the deputy governor for construction and the representative of the province's reconstruction crusade, and a number of authorities were present.

During the meeting, after a discussion of the agricultural needs and problems and a report on the relevant statistics by the representative of the reconstruction crusade, the agriculture minister said that each district and province has its own problems, but all of the problems should be resolved. In another part of his speech he said that from the outset we thought of supplying tractors, and according to the contracts that we have signed with foreign countries, a number of tractors will be imported from Romania and other Eastern and Western European countries.

Commenting on the supply of motor oil for agricultural machinery, Salamati said: "We will solve the motor oil problem somehow, and with the program we have with the oil company [NIOC] to supply our needs from Algeria, Syria and Libya, we should not have any problem such as an oil shortage.

At the end of the meeting the agriculture minister confirmed to our reporter that he will visit other districts as well.

TEHRAN ON REASONS FOR CANCELLATION OF MARCHES

GF190840 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The faithful masses have once again expressed their loyalty and obedience to the imam of the nation and leader of its march by abandoning today's demonstrations in response to the leader's instructions. The imam's decision to call off the demonstrations was exploited by colonialist circles which spread the rumor that the demonstrations were called off out of fear that clashes might take place. The West German radio went even further to claim that the demonstrations were canceled because of the possibility of a huge explosion that could become the start of a civil war.

These fabricated rumors invented by colonialist circles which specialize in lying and fabricating rumors are not new to our Islamic masses in Iran and elsewhere. These circles, who examine the Iranian situation under a microscope, seized the opportunity to deliberately misinterpret this event, fabricating the rumor through news agencies and radios which were only too pleased to spread it further by virtue of the malice and hatred they exhibit against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Today's event is one of these events touched by colonialist hands. It is well known to public opinion that the Muslim masses in Iran decided to proclaim this day the anniversary of the martyrdom of Dr Mohammad Mofatteh and as an opportunity to express their support to the close union between clergymen and the university students.

The masses were incited to organize a demonstration by the sinful attack on the tomb of (Wilayato ol-Faqih) several days ago. During a roaring demonstration held in Esfahan in support of the clergy, a group of colonialist agents tried to create chaos in the country and excite the public by humiliating some of the respected clergy in an attempt to incite the masses to revolt. This group of saboteurs thought they could mislead the masses and make them accuse other groups of committing transgressions. The Esfahan masses saw the incident on television, and the news spread throughout Iran in a way reminiscent of the era of the buried shah. After hearing the news of the attack, the masses became extremely angry and announced through political organizations, popular bodies and professional societies their intention to organize large demonstrations on this very day in support of their leading imam and in protest and denunciation of base actions aimed at inciting the masses and various bodies and organizations to struggle against each other.

This is the story from A to Z, the story that confirms the level of freedom available in Iran under the banner of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is this freedom which is exploited by agents who dare to insult the revolutionary clergy before the angry masses.

The incident also stresses the extent of thoughtlessness and stupidity of the colonialist circles in plotting conspiracies. Committing such action springs out of ignorance and deep malice because it resulted in inciting the masses to renew their loyalty to the imam of the nation and gave the masses the revolutionary impetus to declare their intention to organize a noisy demonstration today. However, the leader humbly instructed the angry masses to call off the demonstration in a statement broadcast yesterday on radio and television. In his statement the leading imam said that he did not want the masses to react against any insult to or humiliation of him. The malicious colonialist circles exploited this statement and spread rumors through radios and news agencies.

We are here to expose these rumors. We will mention only a few of the insanities of the rumormongers who attribute the cancellation of the demonstration to Imam Khomeyni's fear that they might result in counterrevolutionary demonstrations.

We ask those very stupid inventors of lies: Is there a ban on counterrevolutionary demonstrations? Do those who wish to demonstrate against the Islamic Republic wait for a supporting demonstration that will help them to organize their own demonstration? If there were any who wanted to stage a denunciation and protest demonstration, they could do so at anytime and any moment because the freedom made available to the public convinces those who want to demonstrate against the republic that the easiest thing to do is to organize a demonstration.

However, where are those who are anxious to organize such a demonstration? They are a very small minority numbering no more than the fingers of both hands as compared to the waves of roaring masses. This minority acts in the interest of its masters and plans its conspiracies in their hideouts and thus is unable to expose itself openly to the masses.

KUWAITI PAPER: IRAN ENLISTING AFGHAN REBELS

LD161230 Kuwait KUNA in English 1028 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Dec (KUNA)--A local newspaper reported Tuesday that Iran had started mobilization of the Afghani rebels in its war with Iraq.

Quoting diplomatic sources in Tehran, AL-ANBA' newspaper said that the Iranian authorities had recruited about five thousand Afghani rebels against a promise by the Iranian leadership to help these rebels fight against the Soviet-backed government of Babrak Karmal in Kabul.

The sources said that that this matter had floated to the surface following the publication of many names of citizens from Afghanistan who were killed in the warfront. They added [word indistinct] agreement had been concluded through pro-Iran Afghani clergy who believe in exporting the Iranian revolution.

The newspaper said that followers of a certain Muslim sect were sent to the front while followers of the other sect in sympathy with the clergy, were kept as reserves as such, causing disputes among leaders of the Afghani rebels. The newspaper did not give further details.

IRANIANS IN KUWAIT SEND SUPPLIES TO BATTLEFRONTS

GF181640 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Following the aid sent to the war-stricken areas, our Iranian Muslim brothers and sisters residing in Kuwait, with the cooperation of Iranian Embassy, have recently shipped 21,000 (?stoves), 10,000 blankets and 10 cartons of medicine to Iranian ports. The supplies are being transported by trucks and planes to Ahvaz and will be distributed to the armed forces in the region. Moreover, the same brothers and sisters have expressed their readiness to be sent to the warfront in accordance with the imam's orders.

The Muslim people of this region thank their Iranian brothers and sisters residing in Kuwait and ask Almighty God for the success of Islam and Muslims.

OPPOSITION GROUPS SABOTAGE IRAQI PIPELINE IN SYRIA

GF181623 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, citing Western diplomatic sources, has reported that the suspension of the Iraqi oil pumped through Syrian land was a result of commando operations carried out by groups in Iraq opposed to the ruling regime of Saddam. The opposition carried out these operations in the power station of the pipeline that feeds into the Mediterranean, via Syrian land, only 10 days after Iraq resumed exporting its oil through this pipeline.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 341

LD181942 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1645 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Communique 341 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Combatant and vigilant nation of Iran: The self-sacrificing combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, enjoying unstinting support from the popular forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, have leashed up all enemy efforts and inflicted appreciable losses and casualties on his forces. We hereby bring to the attention of our dear compatriots a part of the operations conducted during the past 24 hours:

1. At 1130 two aggressive Iraqi helicopters transgressed across our airspace over the areas north of Abadan but, thanks to defensive fire by the brave gendarmerie combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran, one of these helicopters exploded in midair.

2. Yesterday, in the Gilan-e Gharb region, as a result of artillery and mortar fire by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 1 enemy small-caliber-arms dump, 1 vehicle, 9 one-man foxholes and 1 trench were destroyed and 12 servicemen of the infidel enemy's forces were killed and 30 wounded.

3. Yesterday afternoon, 17 December, in the Sumar region, during an artillery duel four enemy concrete bunkers were destroyed and six Iraqi aggressors were killed.

4. The fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday morning raided the Iraqi aggressive forces' command headquarters and positions west of Khuninshahr and, simultaneously, the artillery of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened intense fire on that region.

5. Also yesterday the Umm ar-Rasas, Kut az-Zayn and (Al-Mu'amir) regions in Iraq were shelled by the artillery of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and appreciable losses and casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

6. The city of Susangerd once again has come under sporadic enemy artillery and mortar fire since yesterday norming, but the brave personnel of the gendarmerie and other combatant forces defending the Islamic Republic of Iran retaliated with their own crossfire and destroyed two enemy personnel carriers and several trenches. Also, two aggressive Iraqi personnel carriers were blown up with mines laid by guards corps brothers with help from the gendarmerie champions.

7. Battles continue to rage in Shush, (Jisr-e) Naderi, Shur-e Shirin, Kan-e Sakht, Konjancham and the Malekshahi heights. In the meantime, at 1500 yesterday one Iraqi Army NCO, together with his personal weapons, gave himself up to the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and was welcomed by his Iranian Muslim brothers.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

KHUZESTAN ISLAMIC COMMITTEES HOLD 3-DAY SEMINAR

GF181852 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text of seven-point resolution passed by the supervisors of the Islamic revolution committees of Khuzestan at the end of a 3-day seminar in Khuzestan on 17 December]

[Text] After the success of the Islamic revolution of Iran under the enlightened leadership of Imam Khomeyni, the only organizations which enthusiastically worked for the preservation of the revolution were the Islamic revolution committees. But when these organizations encountered counterrevolutionary, ostentatious supporters of the previous regime, who endeavored to weaken these organizations, the imam was alert and on guard and dealt a firm blow to such elements. He ordered the committees to continue their efforts.

Therefore, the guards of the Islamic revolution committee of Khuzestan, which is at present in the throes of war against the superpowers along with the armed forces, has concened this 3-day seminar to implement the orders of the imam. So that the authorities are informed of the deficiencies and problems of the organization, in this meeting, which was attended by all the supervisors of Islamic revolution committees of Khuzestan, the following resolution was approved:

1. We, the guards of the Islamic revolution committee of Khuzestan Province, declare our unstinting support for the theocracy and the united clergy. We strongly condemn the activities of groups and parties affiliated with East and West in the cities of Qom, Mashhad, Esfahan and Tehran based on the insult to the revered theocracy and the weakening of the clergy.

2. The magnificent Islamic revolution, won at the cost of the blood of thousands of martyred and wounded, was achieved under the aegis of the guidance of the imam of the nation. Its preservation lies in following the line of the imam, whose Islam is that of the prophet of 1,400 years ago. We pledge to defend it to the last drop of our blood.

3. We condemn all instigation and conspiracies of Eastern and Western countries, including the aggression by the Ba'thist mercenary Government of Iraq, of which Saddam at-Tikriti is a servant. We warn all such internal lackeys to refrain from all treachery or else face the fury of the revolutionary nation.

4. While expressing our gratitude for the selfless cooperation of the people, and in view of the need for more attention to the particular circumstances of the area, we desire greater coordination with this revolutionary organ [as heard] in order to eliminate the activities of counterrevolutionaries, especially the fifth column elements of the enemy, at the present situation.

5. In keeping with the sayings of the imam of the nation, we desire great coordination and solidarity among the revolutionary organizations. [only five of seven points in resolution broadcast]

FIGHTING CONTINUES ON SOUTHERN BATTLEFRONTS

Battle Successes

LD181936 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1648 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, this afternoon a helicopter of the Iraqi Army became the target of defensive fire from the defenders of the Islamic revolution along the Hamidiyeh-Susangerd axis and was shot down. This helicopter, which together with another enemy helicopter intended to attack the positions of our heroic forces, was shot down before embarking on any operations.

In another dispatch from Ahvaz, PARS reported: During a downpour yesterday the Islamic devotees dispatched from Karaj once again created an epic in the Karkheh Kur region and, using light weapons, including G-3 rifles and RPG-7's, launched a rapid attack and dealt deadly blows to Saddam's duped mercenaries. During these operations operations 9 enemy tanks, 2 50-caliber machineguns, 1 antiaircraft gun, 1 ammunition tent and 1 fuel tanker were destroyed; 70 of Saddam's mercenaries were killed and 150 wounded. After completing their operations all the combatants of Islam returned safely to their bases.

According to a PARS dispatch, from last night till this afternoon fierce clashes took place including an artillery duel between the heroic combatants and the mercenaries of Saddam at-Tikriti along the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts. On the basis of the same dispatch the combatants of Islam on one of the fronts in Khuninshahr with their artillery succeeded in killing 10 of the Iraqi regime's mercenaries deployed in a building west of Khuninshahr. On other fronts in Khuninshahr, too, battles continued to rage with the use of various light and heavy weapons between the forces defending the Islamic revolution of Iran and the Iraqi mercenaries until 1700 today.

The PARS correspondent from the Abadan-Mahshahr and Abadan-Ahvaz highway axes reported that during the clashes, involving heavy weapons, which took place today between the defenders of the revolution and the Iraqi mercenaries in this region losses and casualties were inflicted on enemy forces, but we have no accurate information as to the level of these losses and casualties. During these clashes the Iranian forces did not suffer any losses.

Khuzestan Fighting, Casualties

LD181832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1650 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Quoting the Khuzestan governor general's office, PARS reported: Last night and today fighting continued over the past 24 hours on the Susangerd front, 6 of Islam's warriors were wounded and 1 was martyred; the exact losses and damages inflicted on the enemy are not yet known.

According to this report, due to mortar fire of the self-sacrificing guards of Islam on enemy positions on the Karkheh Kur front, an enemy loader was destroyed and about 30 of the forces of blasphemy were killed.

In addition, a prefabricated enemy bridge, which had been built for crossing the Karkheh Kur River, and a vehicle which was crossing the bridge were destroyed, thanks to an explosion resulting from our brothers' operations.

According to the Khuzestan governor general's public relations office, two personnel carriers, six vehicles and two of the enemy's heavy machineguns were destroyed on the Ahvaz front, thanks to effective artillery fire and the hawklike operations of our airborne brothers. During these operations a large number of the forces of blasphemy were killed. Six of Islam's warriors were martyred on this front.

Also, an artillery battle was in progress yesterday on the Karkheh Kur front, in the west of Andimeshk region. Six of Islam's warriors and one civilian were injured.

PARS also reported: At 1830 yesterday, parts of Dezful were brought under the infidel mercenaries' artillery fire, as a result of which a section of the city's Red Crescent maternity hospital was wrecked. According to the same report, during enemy artillery firing on Dezful and its residential areas two persons were injured and a number of houses were damaged.

Also, a PARS correspondent learned in a contact with Ahvaz hospitals and the Khuzestan treatment headquarters that yesterday a total of 38 persons were injured on the Susangerd, Navard-e Ahvaz, Darkhovin, Mohammadiyeh, Dub-e Herdan front and the village of (Chubineh) yesterday and last night three Ahvaz inhabitants were injured as a result of artillery fire of Saddam's deceived mercenaries.

Ahvaz Red Alert

GF181552 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1513 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention, please pay attention: The siren you are about to hear is the red alert signal. It means an air attack is imminent. [sound of siren]

100 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' KILLED 17 DEC

LD181848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] According to PARS, during yesterday afternoon's clash between the army, revolution guards, committee guards and mobilization personnel and the counterrevolutionaries, in an area 8 km west of Miandow Ab, about 100 of the counterrevolutionaries were killed.

The political deputy of the Western Azarbayjan governor general, while confirming this report, at 1615 said: This occurred when the revolution guards were returning after mopping-up the villages of (Mansur Knadi) and Dowlatabad. During this clash, which occurred between 0430 the day before yesterday and 2030 yesterday, 24 military, guard and mobilization brothers were martyred and 19 others were wounded.

KURDISH RADIO REPORTS ON FIGHTING IN KORDESTAN

Iranian Attacks on Villages

JN171750 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Saqqez--More than a month has passed since the so-called mojahedin and agent revolution guards attacked (Andarqash), (Sawsand), Sufian, Sarokan and other villages.

The guards have now repeated their crimes against these villages in the vicinity of Saqqez. It is their habit to retaliate for their inability to confront our heroic peshmerga by launching inhuman attacks against the defenseless people in the villages, killing the oppressed peasants and burning their houses.

The guards' practices are far more atrocious than, and even incomparable with, those committed by the Mongols and Tatars. On 14 December 1980, they attacked (Sawzawa) village. They killed several people, looted their money and burned their houses. We vehemently condemn this attack and call on the people to strongly defend their honor, dignity, souls and wealth.

The government has adopted a policy of annihilation against us. It wants to annihilate our women and children who demand their rights. We have to confront those aggressors with all our potentials so that we can cut off the dirty hands of our people's enemies. The brother citizens must bring out their weapons. Those who are financially able should buy arms. Those who have no money can use clubs, mattocks, scythes, shovels and rakes to defend themselves. Rest assured that the Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party peshmerga will with all their might stick to the guns of honor and dignity for the sake of defending your honor and dignity.

Ambush of Iranian Guards

TA171621 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian to Iran 1315 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Sanandaj: New reports have been received from the Sanandaj region about the heroism and self-sacrifice of the peshmerga of the martyr Shahidzadeh force--devoted peshmerga who have resisted the fascist assaults of the regime of the mullahs with the utmost faith and power and who are defending their people. According to these reports, several days ago the peshmerga of the martyr Mohammad 'Ali Soufipoor branch laid an ambush on the Saqez-Sanandaj road, on the route of the mercenary guards, as a result of which a group of the guards fell into the ambush of these heroic sons and during a severe clash the self-sacrificing peshmerga succeeded in killing 37 of the guards and in capturing 41 of them as well. Also, a large quantity of heavy and light weapons and equipment fell into the hands of the heroic peshmerga. Following this courageous mission the self-sacrificing peshmerga returned safely to their bases.

Martyr's Message

JN182112 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 18 Dec 80

[From "The Bold Kurdish Peshmerga Heroes" program]

[Excerpts] In this program, we will present to you the message of one of the peshmerga of the Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] in Iran who was martyred this year. The message of martyr Muhammad 'Arab reads:

At this time when Iran is being subjected to an attack by a foreign country, when the entire Khuzestan Governorate is either occupied or besieged, at this critical time the ruling authorities send their forces to Kordestan to oppress Kurdish children, women and elderly instead of sending their forces to the raging front with Iraq. They want to force this suppressed people, people who have sacrificed hundreds of martyrs, into humiliation and subservience to the foreigner's control.

In fact, they have mobilized and directed all their forces against the national democratic liberation front of the bold Kurdish people who are fighting and struggling to achieve freedom as well as the objectives of the oppressed.

Despite all the wanton acts against the Kurds, the Kurdish people and the KDP will continue the struggle and will offer thousands of martyrs. The KDP will force the ruling authorities' forces to retreat before the daring operations of the peshmerga.

The fighter peshmerga will increase their operations against the mercenaries and the guards [words indistinct] and Kordestan will continue to be a stronghold of steadfastness, an edifice of democracy and freedom. The expansionist will realize that [words indistinct] and will never be defeated by the aggressors.

Helicopters Repulsed

JN182128 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Our correspondent in Sar Dasht reports that on 16 December 1980, five helicopters belonging to the regime of the so-called Islamic Republic tried to land at Sar Dasht camp to transport wounded. These helicopters were confronted with intensive anti-aircraft fire by the bold peshmerga of Unit 110 of the (Layla) [as heard] and were unable to land. Since the helicopters were unable to land at the Sar Dasht camp because of the peshmerga's intensive fire, they changed course and landed in the center of the Sar Dasht marketplace among children and women far away from the peshmerga's resistance. This shows that the peshmerga have tightened their grip on the enemy in the battlefield. We are proud of this action and express our appreciation of the brave operations of our peshmerga. Your sacrifices are torches that enlighten the path of your people.

NVOI CALLS ON IRAN TO FORM ANTI-U.S. FRONT

TA182034 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary: "The Plot of the United States in Creating a New Aggressive Military Pact"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Several years ago, during a conference of countries of the aggressive NATO pact, the concept of creating a new aggressive pact in the Persian Gulf region was raised by the United States. The aim of the aggressor United States was to utilize this pact to expand the activities of NATO on the so-called other side of Suez. The United States and its allies in NATO have currently stepped up their efforts once more toward patching up this pact by drawing into it Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. By establishing this pact the aggressor America intends to use it to defend its so-called vital interests in the Near and Middle East.

In the face of the increasing threats and the military and adventurous activities of the United States, without doubt the unity of all the anti-imperialist forces in a single steadfastness front on the regional level is a vital matter. Under such conditions the interests of our liberated homeland also dictate that we sincerely shake the hand of fraternity and friendship extended toward us by others, particularly by neighboring countries. In this connection special attention should be devoted to our relations with our Muslim neighbor, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. As we are aware, Mr Babrak Karmal, prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, has repeatedly announced the readiness of his government to peacefully settle problems with neighboring countries. In recent years the Afghan Government has many times presented specific proposals in this connection, particularly in respect to relations with our country.

In one of his recent speeches the prime minister of democratic Afghanistan stated that we sincerely hope that Iran's and Pakistan's responsible officials will show realism, wisdom and a constructive attitude toward the call of the leaders of the Soviet Union and India regarding the political settlement of problems for the purpose of reducing tensions in our region. As we know, the proposals of Mr Brezhnev, head of the Soviet Government, during his recent visit to India, are also aimed at maintaining a normal and peaceful situation in the Persian Gulf region. In his proposals Mr Brezhnev showed a just and realistic way for preserving a lasting peace in our unstable region, in which, basically, stress is laid upon the importance of creating a united front among the liberated and nonaligned countries to confront the aggressive forces of U.S. imperialism.

The true forces of the revolution and the imam of the nation, the great Khomeyni, have repeatedly stressed that it is only through unity of word and action that one can confront the principle enemy of the Iranian nation, namely, the arch-Satan--aggressive U.S. imperialism and its adventurous plans. Any committed patriot in our homeland believes in the principle that the interests of the revolution and our Islamic Republic lie in establishing a united front consisting of all the liberated and nonaligned countries to crush the plots of U.S. imperialism. Any schoolchild also knows that the struggle against world-devouring U.S. imperialism, particularly in the current conditions--in conditions where the United States, along with its NATO allies and its puppet regimes in the region, is more than ever aggravating tensions and is doing its utmost to weaken the Islamic Republic and if possible to overthrow it through various means, including the imposition of a war of attrition--is not possible without the solidarity and unity of the anti-imperialist forces at the regional level.

The nations of the Persian Gulf region can and must rise in a united front against the expansionist plans of Washington in connection with creating a new aggressive pact in the Near and Middle East, and to preserve lasting peace in this part of the world by consistent resistance in the face of the militaristic policy of the Pentagon in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

NVOI LAUDS SIGNING OF TRANSIT AGREEMENT WITH USSR

TA172057 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary: "A Step That is a Manifestation of Solidarity With and Support of Our Revolution"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The approval of the transit agreement between our country and our northern neighbor, the Government of the USSR, will solve some of the problems arising from the measures of world-devouring U.S. imperialism and its Western allies in their economic blockade aginst our country. It is no accident that this event has aroused the concern of imperialist circles. Their concern is not only because our northern neighbor's government, the Soviet Union, by concluding this agreement and by providing facilities for the transport of goods to and from Iran through the Soviet Union, has foiled the plots of the world devourers, but also their concern is due to the development of proportional cooperation at the economic level between our country and the Soviet Union.

It seems that imperialist circles, especially American--who still think of Iran as their private domain--have not drawn the necessary conclusions from the broad changes and from the revolution that have taken place in our country. They are still hoping that the futile attempts of the compromising liberal bourgeois could perhaps bear fruit so that they would be able once more to open the way for their monopolies into Iran and to revive their lost positions again in our liberated country.

When we consider the endeavors and attempts of individuals asociated with the liberal-bourgeois wing and the subversive and conspiratorial activities of the counterrevolutionaries, of remnants of the satanic regime and of the rightist and leftist extremists within the country--which are all aimed at weakening the system of the Islamic regime, and if possible at its downfall--we see that these enemies of the nation have still not lost the hope of achieving their anti-Iranian goals. It has become a common practice for the two-faced enemies of our revolution--some of whom through cunning are unfortunately still holding sensitive positions as well--to exert their efforts to isolate liberated Iran from its real friends and natural allies, and under hollow pretexts to deprive Iran of their unsparing and unmotivated support and backing against the plots of the world devourers.

We have observed through experience that when the Americans and their NATO allies and their puppets in the region continuously hatch plots against Iran and its revolution, resort to imposing an economic blockade against our country, or surround the Islamic Republic of Iran from a military aspect, these compromising liberal-bourgeois gentlemen and their mouthpieces not only have no objection, but they place the blame for these U.S. crimes on what they call the government of the mullahs.

The moment certain measures are taken by the friends of our revolution and nation aimed at supporting Iran against the plots of U.S. imperialism and its allies, the drums of these gentlemen start beating. They fabricate all sorts of lies in order to divert public opinion from paying attention to the principle and real enemy and to lead the irreconcilable struggles of our nation toward a direction that is desired by their American overlords.

We do not say anything about the unjust accusations leveled by the likes of Qotbzadeh at the friends of our liberated homeland, or even about the false [word indistinct] of the Chamrans that they fabricate concerning the real friends of the Iranian nation through the so-called CIA radio network and whose falseness are revealed within several days. These are certain issues which the people of our homeland have observed through experience and for which they do not have the slightest value. The Iranian people recognize their friends and foes quite well and are aware and value the sincere backing, support and solidarity of these friends, whether during the peak of the revolutionary struggles or during the revolution or following the revolution.

The transit agreement between our country and the Soviet Union is another example of the sincerity and solidarity of our northern neighbor, the Soviet Union, with the revolution and the revolutionary gains of our nation. U.S. imperialism and its allies, by laying siege to our country wanted to entangle our nation with problems from the economic aspect, and thus bring the people of our homeland to their knees. With the signing of the [word indistinct] agreement the antihuman and criminal schemes of U.S. imperialism have been thwarted. It is up to Iran's enemies, whether internal or external, to be concerned about this event or not. What is certain is that this step was to the benefit of the Iranian nation and revolution. Without doubt during the very sensitive and critical period which has been created for our nation as a result of the imposed war and the economic blockade of U.S. imperialism, our nation (?lauds) and values the signing of the transit agreement between the two neighboring countries as one of the examples of solidarity of the friends of the Iranian revolution.

NVOI CRITICIZES ANTI-CLERICAL DEMONSTRATIONS

TA181914 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 18 December carried two commentaries:

The first commentary was entitled: "The Deep Roots of the Recent Events." The events of recent days, and especially certain demonstrative actions in Esfahan, Qom, Tehran and Mashhad, have rightly aroused the concern of the people. In some of these demonstrations, the leaders of the revolution and the imam of the nation, who is respected by all the people and all the true forces of the revolution, were openly insulted. The reaction of the struggling clergy in the face of these actions was a statement issued by Ayatollah Montazeri calling on the people to take part in a unity march on Thursday. The imam of the nation, however, with his usual sincerity and wisdom, cancelled the march due to the current sensitive situation in the country.

The issue is not about childish actions, like tearing the picture of the leaders of the revolution and insulting them. The issue is deeper than this. The issue concerns the appearance of a certain trend originated by the likes of Qotbzadeh, Yazdi, Bazargan and Chamran, and which is today being openly manifested in demonstrations against the revolution's organs and the leaders of the revolution and the committed and revolutionary clergy. Unfortunately, the leaders of this trend are striving greatly to show that they are in the same line as that of the president, Mr Bani-Sadr.

There is no doubt that the supporters of the compromising liberal-bourgeois line, the millionaries, big landowners, the Satanic bazaaris, and most probably remnants of the former regime and the Savakists, had a hand in organizaing these demonstrations. The aim of the participants in these demonostrations was to weaken the Islamic Republic, to weaken the revolutionary organs and to prepare the ground for the extensive plans of the counterrevolution, especially during the current sensitive conditions when our nation is locked in an imposed war cooked up by the United States. It is here that we must emphasize that alliance and unity of word and action of all the true revolutionary in the face of various internal and external plots.

The second commentary was entitled: "The Plot of the United States in Creating a New Aggressive Military Pact." The United States is endeavoring to create a new military pact for the Persian Gulf region, with the cooperation of some of its NATO allies and the puppet regimes in the region. Our country and other non-aligned nations of the area should confront this plan by closing their ranks and by solidarity. Brezhnev's recent proposals for the security of the Persian Gulf region are a manifestation of the Soviet Union's desire to see the countries of the Persian Gulf free from imperailist domination, therefore, these proposals should be studied with care. Afghanistan, Iran and other non-aligned countries of the region can thwart U.S. plans by taking steps to form a united front against the new U.S. military pact.